Welcome to Bournemouth and Poole
Enjoy the spirit of studying in Bournemouth and Poole

Through the images in this photobook, the International Education Forum would like to share with you the joys and pleasures of our outstanding area.

You will discover that Bournemouth and Poole offer a world-class experience for international students.

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Bournemouth and Poole:
2 hours’ drive to London Heathrow
2 hours 20 minutes’ drive to Gatwick
Bournemouth beach at night
The beach huts in Bournemouth and Poole are available to rent all year round
Bournemouth beach stretches across seven miles of golden sands. Stroll, cycle or hop aboard the land train to see the best of it!
The Isle of Purbeck is located west of Bournemouth, with natural beauty spots such as Old Harry Rocks (pictured).
The sun setting over the stunning Poole Harbour
The pretty harbour town of Poole
Surfing is very popular amongst locals. With glistening sands and some of the safest beaches in the country, Bournemouth is the perfect place to experience the thrill of catching a wave!
Bournemouth’s Coastal Activity Park offers lessons in many different water sports. Why not try one of the 30+ activities, such as surfing, kayaking or stand-up paddle boarding?
Bournemouth offers all the traditional seaside fun you’d expect to find as well as so much more
Why not try something unique like the first ever pier-to-beach zip wire?
Swim, sail or simply enjoy the fresh seafood at Poole Quay and Sandbanks Beach
Summer brings a whole spectacle of events to Poole Quay. Enjoy stunning weekly firework displays, live entertainment and the breathtaking views across the harbour.
Every August, the award winning Bournemouth Air Festival offers one of the largest air displays in the country.
Day and night Bournemouth Air Festival delights locals and visitors with four days of jaw-dropping stunts, incredible jets and display teams.
The Lower Gardens are renowned for their floral bedding displays throughout the year, which are designed to bring together brilliant colours, subtle textures, height variations and scent.
The Lower Gardens in Bournemouth are only a five minute walk from the main shopping centre, the beach and the pier. They are also home to the famous Bournemouth Balloon.
The glorious Alum Chine Gardens: with the Blue Flag beach below, the gardens have become renowned for their award-winning facilities, striking design and stunning views.
Bournemouth offers 2,000 acres of glorious gardens and parks just waiting to be explored all year round
Bournemouth’s Lower Gardens at night
The River Bourne in Bournemouth’s Lower Gardens, located seconds from the town centre
Bournemouth Square, located minutes away from the beach and Lower Gardens
Bournemouth is brimming with boutiques, designer brands and high street favourites to enjoy! When you’ve shopped ‘til you’ve dropped, why not sit back and relax in one of the many eateries on the seafront?
Immerse yourself in the arts! Bournemouth offers a range of arts-focused events such as Bournemouth Arts by the Sea Festival (pictured, top left, top right and bottom left) and is home to the world-renowned Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra (bottom right).
Arts Bournemouth exists to support and develop the arts in Bournemouth and delivers the annual Bournemouth Arts by the Sea Festival
Taking place between Bournemouth’s two historic piers and spanning a 1.5 mile stretch of stunning coastline, Bournemouth Wheels Festival offered three packed days of pageants and displays.
Built in 1901, the Russell-Cotes Museum was originally home to the Mayor of Bournemouth, Merton Russell-Cotes and his wife, Annie. The couple lived in East Cliff Hall as it was originally named, until they presented it as a gift to the people of Bournemouth along with the art collections within
The Russell-Cotes Museum boasts hundreds of unusual pieces of work, collected by Merton and Annie during their overseas expeditions. The couple bought so many pieces of art that the displays have to be changed on a regular basis to make sure as much of it as possible gets exhibited.
Test your competitive side and enjoy traditional seaside entertainment, such as the Pier Amusements.
With excellent public transport links, community safety networks and great educational resources, Bournemouth and Poole offer the perfect locations in which to study.
Whilst staying in Bournemouth, why not venture to one of the many local beauty spots, such as Old Harry Rocks (pictured, top left), the nearby Brownsea Island (bottom left) and Poole Harbour (right).
On Dorset’s Jurassic Coast lies the 140 million year old limestone formation of Durdle Door. A popular visitor spot, the heritage site lies 20 miles west of Bournemouth and makes for the perfect day trip.
The neighbouring quayside town of Christchurch
The Bournemouth vicinity has a great selection of historical sites for you to explore. Clockwise from top left: the birthplace of novelist and poet, Thomas Hardy, the ruins of Corfe Castle accessible via steam railway, traditional Tudor architecture in the nearby town of Sherborne and the Grade I listed Highcliffe Castle.
The nearby New Forest is famed for its abundant wildlife. Learn about the animals that inhabit the English countryside and make the local area so special.